SORTED-PAGED RETRIEVAL OF HIERARCHICAL
DATA FROM RELATIONAL DATABASES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for sorted-paged retrieval of hierarchical
data from a relational database is disclosed, which
includes the use of one or more relational table equi-
join terms in a query to increase the retrieval
efficiency, suitable restrictions imposed on the join
terms to further increase the retrieval efficiency,
partial de-normalization or replication of information to
improve the efficiency of the join operation(s) and thus
further increase the retrieval efficiency, and proper
cursor management to keep track of the current location
of the cursor(s) involved. As a result, specific pages
of objects can be efficiently retrieved from a database,
while the specified sort orders and restrictions imposed
by the original retrieval requests can be maintained.